



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 433

January Session, 2013



AN ACT CONCERNING A CONNECTICUT DEMOCRACY INDEX.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Secretary of the State
2 shall develop a Connecticut Democracy Index for the evaluation of
3 primaries, as defined in section 9-372 of the general statutes, and
4 regular elections, as defined in section 9-1 of the general statutes, held
5 on or after January 1, 2014, for federal, state and municipal offices. In
6 preparation of the index, the Secretary shall establish and operate a
7 data collection system to collect and measure data, as described in
8 subsection (c) of this section. The Secretary shall update such index
9 after each regular election and make such index available to the public
10 through the Internet.

11 (b) The Secretary of the State shall design the index in a manner that
12 (1) provides assistance to the Secretary and the municipalities in the
13 administration of primaries and regular elections for federal, state and
14 municipal offices, and (2) presents data on a town-by-town basis, in a
15 manner designed to demonstrate administration practices that (A)
16 ensure the right of individuals to vote, (B) improve the quality of voter
17 access to polls and the quality of voter services, and (C) secure the
18 accuracy and integrity of elections.

19 (c) The Secretary of the State shall determine which data to collect
20 for the Connecticut Democracy Index. The Secretary shall analyze such

21 data, using results-based accountability principles, to determine the
 22 effectiveness of the administration of primaries and regular elections
 23 for federal, state and municipal offices.

24 (d) Not later than August 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the
 25 Secretary of the State shall report to the joint standing committees of
 26 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
 27 elections and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies in
 28 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
 29 and to the chief elected official and registrars of voters of each
 30 municipality. Such report shall include any recommendations for (1)
 31 improving the types of data that are collected and included in the
 32 Connecticut Democracy Index, and (2) legislation or administrative
 33 action to improve state and municipal performance in the
 34 administration of primaries and regular elections for federal, state and
 35 municipal offices, as determined based on a town-by-town comparison
 36 of such data.

37 (e) The Secretary of the State may adopt regulations in accordance
 38 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes to implement
 39 the provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*